

Session of the Institutes for Jewish Studies and Arabic and Islamic Studies

› Astrolabes in Pre-Modern Cultures

June 5 | 16:00 - 20:00



Adler Planetarium, Chicago. Photo courtesy of J. Rodriguez-Arribas

› Astrolabes in Pre-Modern Cultures

The astrolabe, developed in antiquity and elaborated throughout the Middle Ages, was used for calculation, teaching, and observation, and also served astrological and medical purposes. It was the most popular and prestigious of the mathematical instruments, and was found equally among practitioners of various sciences and arts as among princes in royal courts. This session intends to introduce the instrument, get us familiar with its terminology and uses, and explore its history throughout medieval and early modern cultures.

› Programme

16:00 – 16:15	Welcome address Katrin Kogman-Appel and Josefina Rodríguez-Arribas (Institute of Jewish Studies, University of Münster)
16:15 – 17:00	Astrolabe: Explanation and Demonstration Petra Schmidl (University of Frankfurt)
17:00 – 18:00	Constructing Astrolabes in Fourteenth-Century Constantinople Darin Hayton (Haverford College, Pennsylvania)
18:00–19:00	Using Astrolabes for Islamic Religious Purposes: From the Earliest Evidence to Later Implementations Petra Schmidl (University of Frankfurt)
19:00–20:00	Respondents and Final Questions Stephen Johnston (Museum of the History of Science, Oxford University) and Josefina Rodríguez-Arribas (University of Münster)

› Organisation

Josefina Rodriguez-Arribas and Katrin Kogman-Appel
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› Venue

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› Registration

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